

## Today's News - Thursday, December 5, 2013

- "Joan of Architecture" (a.k.a. Phyllis Lambert) is stepping down as head of the CCA; Kuwabara tapped to step into her shoes (she will "continue to play an active role").
- Bagley and Gallucci offer an in-depth (and fascinating) 5-part look at NYC's Mayor "Bloomberg's Hidden Legacy" re: climate change and the city's future: "Sandy showed them they had to do much more, much faster."
- Swain takes us on a tour of "secret city design tricks" to manipulate behavior (these "decorative discouragements" range from "deliberately uncomfortable" to just plain mean).
- In Scotland, "The Kelpies" are "a reminder that good public art beautifies our shared spaces": though such projects have produced some "uneven results," the successful pieces are "worth paying attention to, partly to figure out what works" (we love the Kelpies!).
- Eyefuls of HOK's master plan that won Dubai the World Expo 2020 bid.
- It's a Detroit kind of day: Motor City is considering ditching a freeway in exchange for a pedestrian-friendly parkway.
- The city has high hopes of "clearing away 78,000 blighted buildings within the next 18-36 months. But is that a fantasy?" (maybe not!)
- Gallagher examines a proposal that would save the DIA's art and Detroit pensions (Christie's appraisal came in much lower than many expected).
- Hanley hears from Herzog re: H&deM's Perez Art Museum in Miami: "The building shows everything that it has, everything is exposed. It's almost naked."
- Foster has big plans to transform the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach ("shimmering roof" included).
- Flint at his most (amusingly) flinty re: why "bold projects have to be ready for nasty nicknames" along with "delicious takedowns, and clever labels" (a great read).
- TCLF's Birnbaum reviews 2013's notable developments in landscape architecture (the apt, and the not so apt).
- The New School's new University Center sets a new bar for wayfinding graphics, where "a sign isn't just a sign."
- A most impressive shortlist in London's Natural History Museum Civic Realm Competition (no images yet).
- Call for entries: EOI for Mumbai City Museum North Wing Design Competition + ASID Awards for Designer of Distinction, Design for Humanity, Design Innovation, and more.

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Phyllis Lambert steps down as head of the Canadian Centre for Architecture: Joan of Architecture...is retiring as chair of the board of trustees...Bruce Kuwabara...will step into Lambert's shoes...she felt a "mixture of emotions" over passing the torch...plans to stay on the board and continue to play an active role at the CCA. - Montreal Gazette

Bloomberg's Hidden Legacy: Climate Change and the Future of New York City, Part 1 - 5: The plans they had crafted over the past five years were only the beginning of what NYC needed. Sandy showed them they had to do much more, much faster. By Katherine Bagley and Maria Gallucci- InsideClimate News

Secret city design tricks manipulate your behaviour: Hidden in our streets and buildings are "unpleasant designs" that force us to make certain choices. Once you know what they are, it will transform how you see your city...from benches that are deliberately uncomfortable to sculptures that keep certain citizens away...Decorative discouragement ... By Frank Swain [slide show]- BBC

"The Kelpies" will encourage public art: The new sculptures visible from the M9 are a reminder that good public art beautifies our shared spaces: ...an attempt to improve these spaces...has had, shall we say, uneven results...there have been a number of successful pieces in Scotland...worth paying attention to, partly to figure out what works. By Tiffany Jenkins [image]- The Scotsman (UK)

Dubai Wins World Expo 2020 Bid with HOK-Designed Master Plan: ...438-hectare master plan...inspired by Dubai's "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future" Expo theme...Once the Expo concludes in 2021, the three main pavilions will be retrofitted to become a "Museum of the Future." -- Populous; Arup [images]- ArchDaily

Detroit Kills off Freeways in Favour of Walkable Streets: The midwest's Motor City is the latest metropolitan area in the United States to consider ditching freeways for walkable streets...to study transforming I-375 into a pedestrian-friendly parkway. - Sourceable

Orr dreams of a blight-free Detroit within 3 years: Imagine...clearing away 78,000 blighted buildings within the next 18-36 months...But is that a fantasy? ...2-month-old blight task force, co-chaired by Quicken Loans' Dan Gilbert, will soon have a plan..."to remediate the city of all blight, in some fashion." There is money identified for an anti-blight offensive.- Detroit Free Press

Spinning off Detroit Institute of Arts from city could save both art and Detroit pensions: ...proposal would save the DIA's irreplaceable treasures from creditors seeking billions of dollars from the bankrupt city. The goal is to ensure that the museum never again falls prey to the city's financial woes or politics. By John Gallagher, etc. [links to Christie's estimates, etc.]- Detroit Free Press

Perez Art Museum Miami: In a town where form is often everything and ornament is the vernacular...The museum reads as a bit contrarian...."The building shows everything that it has, everything is exposed," said Herzog. "It's almost naked." By William Hanley -- Herzog & de Meuron [slide show]- Architectural Record

Foster reveals plans to transform Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach: The scheme for the 72-year-old museum, which houses the most important art collection in Florida, features three new pavilions 'unified' beneath a shimmering roof. -- Marion Sims Wyeth (1941); Foster + Partners [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

How We Hate on Architecture Now: Bold projects...have to be ready for nasty nicknames: ...architecture is so routinely pilloried, and with such imaginative comparisons, delicious takedowns, and clever labels...Skeptics would say the pillorying parallels the ludicrous forms that star architects feel they must create to outdo each other, and accordingly the way contemporary architecture has lost its way. By Anthony Flint -- Zaha Hadid; Norman Foster; Rafael Vinoly; Frank Lloyd Wright; Le Corbusier; James Howard Kunstler; AECOM; Renzo Piano [images, links]- The Atlantic Cities

2013's Notable Developments in Landscape Architecture: In surveying the year..."aptness"...seems, well, appropriate. By Charles A. Birnbaum/The Cultural Landscape Foundation -- Dan Kiley; Peter Walker; Stoss Landscape Urbanism; Marjorie Sewell Cautley; Halvorson Design Partnership/HGA Architects; HM White/Weiss/Manfredi; od Williams Billie Tsien Architects; Lawrence Halprin; Richard Haag; M. Paul Friedberg; Simonds & Simonds; Fletcher Steele; James Corner Field Operations; Michael Van Valkenburgh; West8; James van Sweden/Oehme van Sweden [images]- Huffington Post

At the New School's New University Center, a Sign Isn't Just a Sign: "I wanted to find something different, find something that would strengthen the singularity of the building"...The idea is to give a tool for a place, a typeface for a place...which can be adopted in different contexts." -- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); Ruedi Baur [images]- New York Times

London's Natural History Museum Civic Realm Competition shortlist announced -- BIG (Bjarke Ingels Group)/Martha Schwartz Partners; Grant Associates/Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios; Niall McLaughlin Architects/Kim Wilkie; Land Use Consultants (LUC)/Design Engine; Stanton Williams Architects/Bradley-Hole Schoenach Landscape Architects - Malcolm Reading Consultants

Call for entries/Expressions of Interest/EOI: Mumbai City Museum North Wing Design Competition (international, two-stage); no fee; EOI deadline: January 13, 2014 - Malcolm Reading Consultants

Call for entries: ASID Awards: Designer of Distinction, Design for Humanity, Design Innovation, and the Nancy Vincent McClelland Merit Award; nominations deadline: January 5, 2014 - American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)

INSIGHT: The Place of Architecture as an Art Form in the Changing Cultural Landscape: The fine arts today do not have the shared social purpose they once did. But the built environment is different. Architecture is a collective art form and a collective endeavor. By Peter Gisolfi, AIA, ASLA, LEED AP - ArchNewsNow



-- Atelier Peter Zumthor: Shelters for Roman Archaeological Site, Chur, Switzerland (1986): It's astonishing to think it was designed and built almost 30 years ago.  
-- Choreography of Thought: Dominique Perrault's Sketches: "The silence, the mystery that surrounds a sketch constitutes a space in which thought is free."  
-- Foreign Office Architects (FOA): Yokohama International Port Terminal (2002), Yokohama, Japan -- Farshid Moussavi; Alejandro Zaera-Polo  
-- "The Monocle Guide to Better Living" helmed by founder Tyler Brûlé...It is big....global to the bone and filled with stuff of superb quality.

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